Image Data, LLC.

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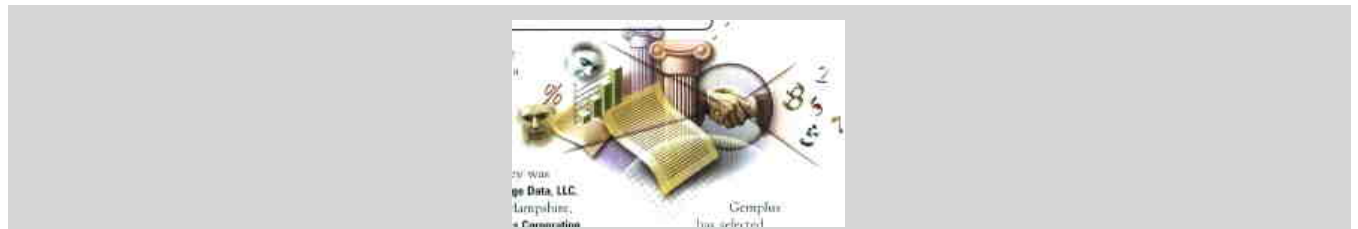**Publisher:** American Society for Industrial Security
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A recent survey has revealed a lack of consumer understanding about identity fraud and its impact. The national survey was conducted for Image Data, LLC, of Nashua, New Hampshire, by Opinion Dynamics Corporation of Cambridge, Massachusetts.

According to Image Data, most criminals obtain and use information in face-to-face environments, but more survey participants were concerned about losing personal information through the Internet than through theft of a wallet or purse, mail, or trash. Most participants (63 percent) thought criminals would be likely to use stolen information on the Internet, and 32 percent suspected criminals of using telephone orders; both of these far surpassed the suspicion of face-to-face transactions at 13 percent.

Of those surveyed who had been victims of ID fraud, 46 percent had suffered from unauthorized credit or debit transactions, 20 percent from bank account withdrawals, and 22 percent from having new accounts or loans opened in their names.

Identity fraud has been called the nation's fastest-growing crime, and this survey suggests that more consumer education is needed.

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